

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

RETO SCHÖB

Application No.: Not yet assigned

Filed: Herewith

For: A MAGNETIC STIRRING
APPARATUS AND AN AGITATING
DEVICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

San Francisco, CA 94111

July 23, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please substitute the following amended, clean version of the Abstract (a marked-up version of the changes to the Abstract is attached to this Amendment):

[A MAGNETIC STIRRING APPARATUS AND AN AGITATING DEVICE]

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The magnetic stirring apparatus (1) comprises an agitator (1a), at least one permanent magnet (1d, 1e) and a float body (1f), which are connected to one another.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please substitute the following amended, clean versions of the indicated claims
(a marked-up version of the changes to the claims is attached to this Amendment):

3. (amended) A magnetic stirring apparatus (1) in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that it tapers into a tip (1c) in the region of the first end section (1o).

4. (amended) A magnetic stirring apparatus (1) in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the agitator (1a) is formed symmetrically; and in that at least two permanent magnets (1d, 1e) are symmetrically arranged in the agitator (1a).

5. (amended) A magnetic stirring apparatus (1) in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the float body (1f) has an increasing inner cross-section at least along one part section in the direction of the second end section (1p).

6. (amended) A magnetic stirring apparatus (1) in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that at least one vane (1h) is arranged at the bar (1b).

7. (amended) A magnetic stirring apparatus (1) in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that a permanent magnet (1m) is arranged in the float body (1f).

8. (amended) A magnetic stirring apparatus (1) in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the float body (1f) is formed in an annular shape.

9. (amended) A magnetic stirring apparatus (1) in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the agitator (1a) is made in a bar shape, a star shape or a circular shape.

14. (amended) An agitating device (6) in accordance with claim 10, characterised in that the magnetic stirring apparatus (1) has a toe bearing.


15. (amended) A bio-reactor comprising a magnetic stirring apparatus (1) in accordance with claim 1 and an agitating device.

REMARKS:

Claims 1-15 are pending.

Amendment is made to correct minor informalities in the Abstract and to eliminate all multiple dependencies from the claims, thereby avoiding the need to pay the multiple dependent surcharge.

Respectfully submitted,


J. Georg Seka
Reg. No. 24,491

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834

Tel: (415) 576-0200

Fax: (415) 576-0300

JGS:tp

SF 1249962 v1

FILED OCT 6 2000

MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE CHANGES TO THE ABSTRACT

[Abstract] Abstract Of The Disclosure

The magnetic stirring apparatus (1) comprises an agitator (1a), at least one permanent magnet (1d, 1e) and a float body (1f), which are connected to one another.

[(Fig. 1)]

1062/01/56921650

MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE CHANGES TO THE CLAIMS

3. (amended) A magnetic stirring apparatus (1) in accordance with [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterised in that it tapers into a tip (1c) in the region of the first end section (1o).

4. (amended) A magnetic stirring apparatus (1) in accordance with [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterised in that the agitator (1a) is formed symmetrically; and in that at least two permanent magnets (1d, 1e) are symmetrically arranged in the agitator (1a).

5. (amended) A magnetic stirring apparatus (1) in accordance with [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterised in that the float body (1f) has an increasing inner cross-section at least along one part section in the direction of the second end section (1p).

6. (amended) A magnetic stirring apparatus (1) in accordance with [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterised in that at least one vane (1h) is arranged at the bar (1b).

7. (amended) A magnetic stirring apparatus (1) in accordance with [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterised in that a permanent magnet (1m) is arranged in the float body (1f).

8. (amended) A magnetic stirring apparatus (1) in accordance with [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterised in that the float body (1f) is formed in an annular shape.

9. (amended) A magnetic stirring apparatus (1) in accordance with [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterised in that the agitator (1a) is made in a bar shape, a star shape or a circular shape.

14. (amended) An agitating device (6) in accordance with [one of the claims 10 to 13] claim 10, characterised in that the magnetic stirring apparatus (1) has a toe bearing.

15. (amended) A bio-reactor comprising a magnetic stirring apparatus (1) in accordance with [one of the claims 1 to 9] claim 1 and[/or comprising] an agitating device [(6) in accordance with one of the claims 10 to 14].

FOR "SECRET"